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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Docket No. 27475-07001

In re patent application of Sheek, et al.

U.S. Serial No.: 10/055,301

Filed: 1/23/2002

For: **CORROSION AND ABRASION RESISTANT
DECORATIVE COATING**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. BOX 1450

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed except for: (a) pending applications or (b) those previously cited or submitted to the Office in the following application(s) upon which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120:

Serial No.: _____
Filing Date: _____

Regarding any document, publication or other information for which a date is not given on the attached PTO-1449, Applicant(s) believe(s) the same may qualify as "prior" art to this application and should be treated accordingly, although Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to contest the prior art status of any document, publication or information, should issue arise.

2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth in the following document(s):

- ☒ (a) Copy of English language version of a search report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office of each document being submitted from the search report.
- ☐ (b) Attachment entitled "Concise Explanation of Relevance of Non-English Language Documents". (See attached International Search Report).

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) this Statement is being filed:

- ☐ (a) Within 3 months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.
- ☐ (b) Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. If this Statement is not filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, the required

certification is given below or, in the absence thereof, the Office is authorized to charge the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 03-0172 for consideration of this Statement.

☒ (c) After the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance.

☒ (1) The required certification is given below, or

☐ (2) Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 03-0172.

☐ (d) After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Petition hereby is made for consideration of this Statement and the required certification is indicated below.

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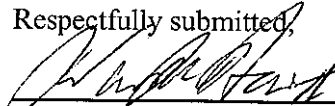
4. Certification (if applicable)

☒ (a) The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

☐ (b) The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-0172.

Respectfully submitted,

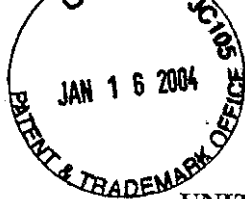

Warren M. Haines II
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 40,632

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this *SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT* is being deposited on this, the 13th day of JANUARY, 2004, with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Joyce Ford
SIGNATURE



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Respectfully submitted,



Warren M. Haines II
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 40,632

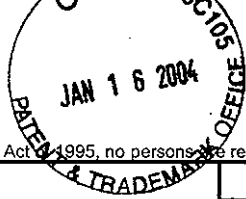
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Joyce Ford
Print Name Of Person Signing This Certificate

Joyce Ford
SIGNATURE

PTO/SB/08A (02-03)



Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/055,301
Filing Date	1/23/2002
First Named Inventor	Sheek, et al.
Art Unit	1775
Examiner Name	John J. Zimmerman
Attorney Docket Number	27475/07001

Sheet 2 of 2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		KUSANO E. et al., "Adhesion and Hardness of Compositionally Gradient TiO ₂ /Ti/TiN, ZrO ₂ /Zr/ZrN, and TiO ₂ /Ti/Zr/ZrN Coatings" Thin Solid Films, Elsevier-Sequoia S.A. Lausanne, CH, vol, 334 no. 1/2; 4 December 1998	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.